

## International

### Krishangi Meshram becomes youngest Solicitor in the UK at 21.

Indian-origin law graduate Krishangi Meshram has become the youngest solicitor in England and Wales in recent years. She is 21. Ms Meshram began her law studies at The Open University in Milton Keynes at the age of 15. She earned a First Class Honours Degree in Law at 18. In 2022, she secured a role with an international law firm.

### Russia Plans Venera-D Venus Mission launch by 2036.

Russia is set to launch the Venera-D mission to revisit Venus before 2036. The mission will include a lander, a balloon probe, and an orbital spacecraft, with the launch expected between 2034 and 2036. The design phase, in collaboration with the Lavochkin Association, will take two years to complete. The exact launch date will be determined after the design phase.

### Pakistan floods worsen: death toll rises to 327.

Pakistan's weather department has warned of heavier torrential rains countrywide, as the death toll from flash floods in the country's north rose to 327. The monsoon rainfall, which began on June 26, has wreaked havoc in the country, killing nearly 650 people since then. The meteorological department issued a heavy rain alert countrywide till August 21.

## National

### Maharashtra Governor CP Radhakrishnan to be NDA Candidate for Vice Presidential election.

Maharashtra Governor CP Radhakrishnan will be the NDA's candidate for the upcoming Vice-Presidential Election. BJP national president and Union Minister JP Nadda announced. The Vice-Presidential election will be held on the 9th of next month. The election has been necessitated due to the resignation of Jagdeep Dhankhar.

### Piyush Goyal inaugurates India's first all-women operated clean street food hub in Mumbai.

Union Minister and North Mumbai MP Piyush Goyal has inaugurated "Mauli – the very first All-Women Operated Clean Street Food Hub" in Kandivani near Mumbai. Referring to the uniqueness of this hub, which is entirely managed by women from Self-Help Groups (SHGs), Union Minister Piyush Goyal informed that these women have received training under the Food Safety Training and Certification (FoSTaC) program, and are now capable of running clean, safe, and hygienic food businesses.

He added that this initiative has not only provided women with a dignified means of livelihood but has also strengthened local entrepreneurship.

### Lodha Foundation unveils privately funded Mathematical Sciences Institute in Mumbai.

Lodha Mathematical Sciences Institute (LMSI) was established in Mumbai to provide a collaborative and meritocratic environment for mathematics researchers from across the globe. The institute aims to be a global leader in mathematical research, both in its fundamental aspects as well as in its applications. Called "the first ever privately funded mathematics research institute in the country, LMSI is backed by Lodha Foundation, which received about Rs 20,000 crore endowment from the Lodha family last year.

### Navy adds Ikshak, a state-of-the-art warship for surveys and coastal missions.

The Garden Reach Shipbuilders and Engineers (GRSE) has delivered to the Indian navy yet another warship, 'Ikshak'. 'Ikshak' – the name stands for 'Guide' – is the third in a series of four Survey Vessels (Large) being built by the GRSE. The second ship of this class, INS Nirdeshak, was delivered on October 8, 2024, while the first one, INS Sandhayak, was handed over to the Navy on December 4, 2023.

The 110-metre-long Ikshak will join INS Sandhayak and INS Nirdeshak after being commissioned and will keep the Navy supplied with vital survey data, which is crucial for operational purposes. The maps and charts

prepared on the basis of this survey data are also used for commercial shipping.

## **Business and Economy**

### **Major GST shake-up: 12% and 28% slabs to be axed.**

The Centre has proposed to reduce the number of slabs under the Goods and Services Tax system, retaining the 5% and 18% slabs, while introducing a lower concessional rate below 1% and a high “sin rate” of 40% on just five to seven items each. This would entail entirely doing away with the 12% and 28% tax brackets. Of these, 99% of items currently in the 12% slab will be moved to the 5% rate, and 90% of goods and services in the 28% bracket will move to 18%. There will be no cess of any kind over and above the GST rates.

### **Accenture to buy Australian cybersecurity firm CyberCX for \$650 million.**

Accenture will buy Australian cybersecurity firm CyberCX in its largest-ever deal in the sector, valuing the transaction at more than A\$1 billion (\$650 million). A wave of devastating cyberattacks has battered Australia, including a 2022 breach at telecom major Optus that exposed the personal data of up to 10 million users, and a hack on health insurer Medibank affecting nearly 10 million customers.

### **NSIC enters into an MoU with various private sector banks under the MSME Credit facilitation program.**

National Small Industries Corporation (NSIC) entered into a Memoranda of Understanding (MOU) with various private sector banks such as Axis Bank, Dhanlaxmi Bank, Karnataka Bank, AU Small Finance Bank, and IndusInd Bank under its MSME Credit facilitation program. The collaboration aims to extend handholding support to MSMEs and help them link to the formal financial system, with

increased focus on the Banks to expand their outreach to deserving micro and small enterprises. The arrangement is expected to be a force multiplier in the efforts of Banks to reach the last mile.

## **Sports**

### **Devika Sihag wins First International Challenge Title in Malaysia.**

Indian shuttler Devika Sihag has claimed her first International Challenge title by winning the women’s singles event at the Malaysia International Challenge 2025 in Ipoh. She defeated fifth-seeded compatriot Isharani Baruah 15-7, 15-12 in the final. This victory adds to Sihag’s successful 2024 season, where she also won titles at the Swedish Open and Portugal International at the International Series level.

### **Marc Marquez wins Austrian Grand Prix.**

Six-time MotoGP champion has marked the 1,000th premier class race in history by winning the 2025 Austrian Grand Prix for the first time in his career to take a 142-point lead over his brother Alex in the championship. Marquez claimed the sprint-race double for the sixth Grand Prix in a row, with the Spaniard unbeaten since the British Grand Prix in May.

### **500+ Humanoid Robots compete at World Robot Games in Beijing.**

More than 500 humanoid robots from 16 countries, including Japan, showcased their skills at the World Humanoid Robot Games in Beijing. The four-day event, which concluded has featured a range of competitions in sports, tasks, and real-world scenarios.

Robots competed in 26 events, including track and field, soccer, dancing, and kickboxing. A robot clocked an impressive 21.5 seconds in the 100-meter sprint. Others demonstrated remarkable agility in combat, managing to recover balance after taking hits in kickboxing.